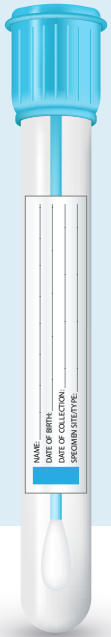


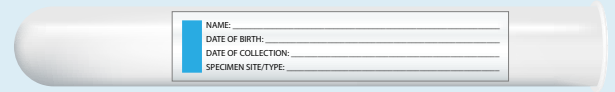
# Mpox Collection and Shipping



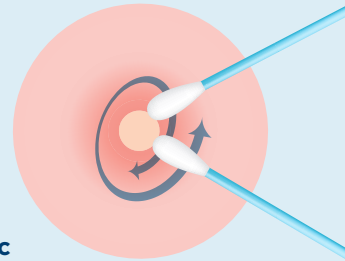
## Mpox Specimen Collection Instructions

**STEP 1:** Label each collection tube with the following:

- Patient name
- Date of birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
- Date of collection (mm/dd/yyyy)
- Specimen site/type



**STEP 2:** Simultaneously use **TWO** sterile synthetic swabs (i.e. polyester, rayon, or Dacron) to **vigorously swab** the base of the lesion. *\*If vesicles or pustules unroof, use swabs to soak up lesion fluid.*



**STEP 3:** Place swabs from each lesion sampled into **their own screw-capped, plastic aliquot tubes WITHOUT transport media**. Ensure both tubes are properly labeled.

## Mpox Storage and Shipping Instructions

**STEP 4:** Within one hour of collection, place all specimens in a 2-8°C refrigerator or a freezer at -20°C or colder



**STEP 5:** Specimens need to be shipped cold or frozen

- **IF** specimen will be received at NCSLPH ≤5 days of collection: specimen must be kept between 2-8°C; package and ship to NCSLPH with frozen cold packs
- **IF** specimen will be received at NCSLPH >5 days after specimen collected: specimen must be frozen at -20°C or lower; ship on dry ice to ensure received at NCSLPH frozen (-20°C or lower).

**STEP 6:** Complete the [BTEP Specimen Submission Form](#)

**STEP 7:** Contact BTEP Unit (919-807-8600) only if you have submission questions.

**STEP 8:** Ship package using Category B shipping. Category B shipping instructions can be found here: [Cat B Poster\\_v3 \(dot.gov\)](#).



**STEP 9:** Label package appropriately

### For State Courier:

North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health  
ATTN: Bioterrorism & Emerging Pathogens Unit  
1918 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1918

### For UPS, FEDEX, and other courier services\*:

North Carolina State Laboratory of Public Health  
ATTN: Bioterrorism & Emerging Pathogens Unit  
4312 District Drive  
Raleigh, NC 27607

\*Ship **overnight delivery**. You must specify Saturday delivery if shipping on Friday.



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
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Division of Public Health  
State Laboratory of Public Health

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